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### **REMARKS**

Claims 19-21 have been allowed.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 7-12, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 3 and 13 have been objected to as depending from a rejected base claim and allowable if rewritten in independent format.

Applicant respectfully traverses all the outstanding rejections and requests reconsideration and withdrawal thereof in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 13.

#### **Amendments to the Claims**

Claims 1 – 18 have been canceled without prejudice.

Therefore no new matter has been added.

No amendment was made for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant had argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

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**Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102**

The Office Action rejects, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Claims 1-2, 4-6, 14 and 18 over U.S. Patent Application No. US-20040162064 Himmelstein (Himmelstein).

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103**

The Office Action rejects, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Claims 7-12, 15-17 over U.S. Patent Application No. US-20040162064 Himmelstein in view of U.S. Patent No.: 6,580,909 Carro (Carro).

Claims 1 – 18 have been canceled without prejudice.

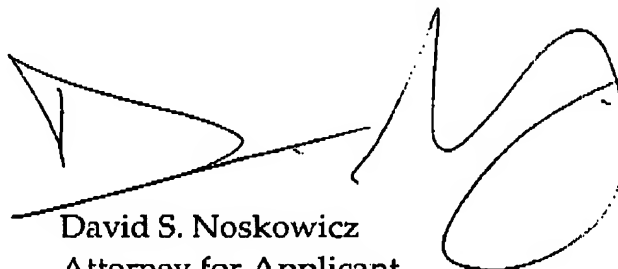
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CONCLUSION

The application, and in particular claims 19-21, is in condition for allowance and a favorable response at an early date is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number indicated below. Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to **Deposit Account 502117**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David S. Noskowicz', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

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